



WE WILL PROMOTE PEACE AND PREVENT CONFLICTS

“The ongoing armed conflicts and threats against international peace and security must be urgently resolved through peaceful means. We reiterate the importance of abiding by the Charter, principles of international law and relevant resolutions of the Security Council. International arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and their architectures need to be upheld. The United Nations must better address all forms and domains of threats. Terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism are serious threats to international peace and security. The diplomatic toolbox of the Charter needs to be used to its full potential, including preventive diplomacy and mediation. We call upon the Secretary-General to enhance this toolbox to prevent the outbreak, escalation and recurrence of hostilities on land, at sea, in space and in cyberspace. We fully support and promote the Secretary-General’s initiative for a global ceasefire. International humanitarian law must be fully respected. To build, keep and sustain peace is now one of the main responsibilities of the United Nations.”

United Nations General Assembly, “[UN75 Declaration](#)”, September 2020, A/RES/75/1.

“We want a world at peace, no bloodshed, a world where a superpower can’t coerce any concessions they wish out of weaker nations, a world without proxy wars over interests like natural resources. We wish to see our country and other poor countries not shadowed any more by criminality, human trafficking, abuse of women, cybercrimes, emigration and brain drain, abuse of migrants, discrimination against religion, color, race, language, and sect, a more connected and equal world.”

Dialogue organized by UN Assistant Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), mixed ages and genders, technicians.

UN75 DATA ON THIS COMMITMENT

UN75 dialogues



UN75 survey



Media analysis



Research snapshot



We organize the relevant UN75 data gathered across 2020 according to the [UN75 Declaration’s 12 commitments](#). For the full methodology, see the UN75 report “[Shaping Our Future Together](#)”.

FROM THE UN75 DIALOGUES¹

WHERE WE ARE NOW

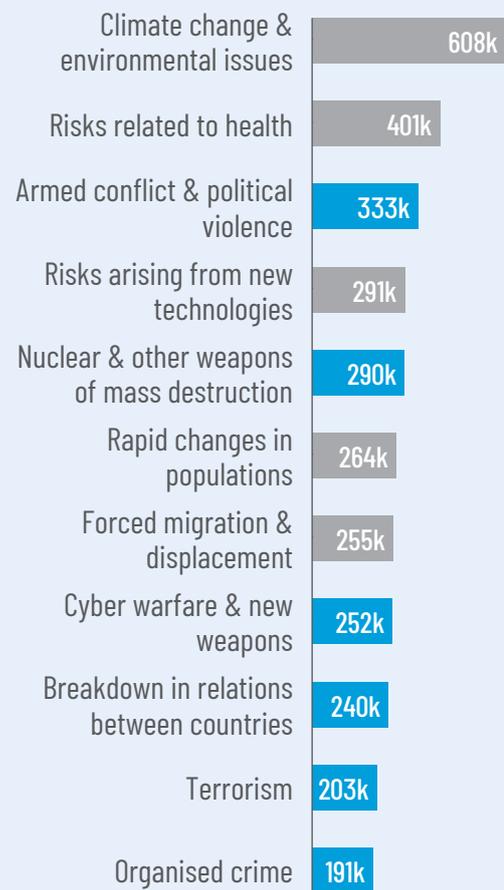
Dialogue participants raised **concerns about the rise of cyber warfare as well as the proliferation of new forms of weapons**, especially those that leverage artificial intelligence. **They denounced the worldwide increase in arms trafficking, and the rise of terrorism and violent extremism.** They described how **COVID-19 is increasing security threats globally**, increasing risk for the most vulnerable populations, particularly women and children.

Dialogue participants noted the failed attempts at addressing many root causes of conflicts, such as poverty, inequality, racism and religious intolerance. Human rights violations continue to be perpetuated and humanitarian assistance fails to be delivered in adequate quantities.

“The rising levels of new forms of violence, climate emergency, cyber warfare, disruption of artificial intelligence, appeared to be at the top of our shared threats, which precondition cross country cooperation, and coordinated solutions.”

UN Association, Albania ages 16-30, mixed professions and genders.

UN75 Survey long-term global threats: Hundreds of thousands of respondents selected conflict, weapons, terrorism and crime as top long-term threats



UN75 Survey Question: Which of these global trends do you think will most affect our future? Base: 1,220,848 (all respondents). Participants could select up to three responses.

1. This report contains a summary of the analysis of 1,141 UN75 dialogue summaries received from 94 countries between 2 January and 7 November 2020. The dialogue summaries were analyzed in partnership with the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. For the full methodology, see the UN75 report [“Shaping Our Future Together”](#).

WHERE WE WANT TO BE

Participants in dialogues across the world, and especially young participants, envisioned **living in a world that ensures peace and security for all, and in which every country upholds treaties to maintain peace and security through nonviolent means.**

Participants advocated for a world where countries ensure the protection and safety of all people, regardless of race, age, gender or economic status.

Dialogue participants wanted to see **a world where the UN plays a central role in the peaceful resolution of international conflicts,** the efficient and fair delivery of humanitarian assistance and the promotion of disarmament and arms control.

HOW WE CAN GET THERE

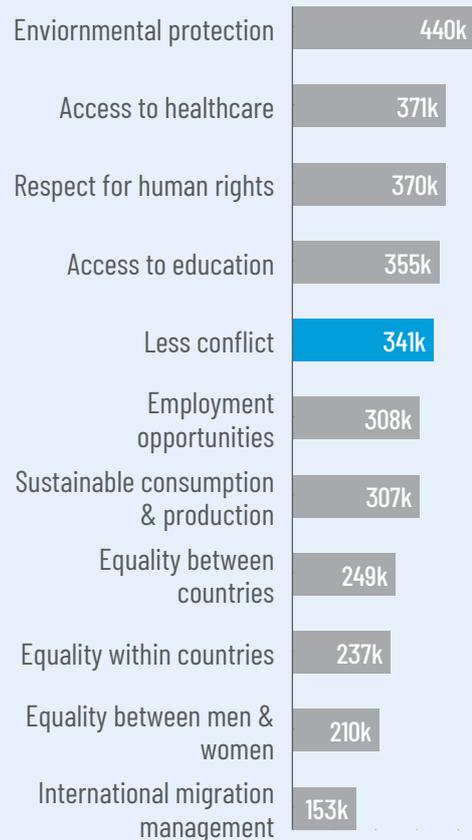
Participants across the world proposed strategies for individuals, civil society organizations, national governments and the UN system to embark on to build a more peaceful and secure planet for all.

Foster a culture of peaceful coexistence

“Foster a culture of peaceful coexistence, say no to violence, racism, xenophobia, and radicalism. Raise voice, advocate for the rights of the victims, fight for a common cause for humanity.”

Dialogue organized by UNAMA, Afghanistan, mixed ages and professions.

UN75 Survey long-term priorities: Less conflict was one of the top long-term priorities for 340,000 respondents



UN75 Survey Question: Taking a longer view, if you picture the world you want in 25 years, what three things would you most want to see? Base: 1,220,848 (all respondents). Participants could select up to three responses.

Participants advocated for individuals and civil society to foster a culture of peaceful coexistence, to sensitize others to respect the principles of non-violence, and to develop an understanding of the role of individuals and civil society in promoting peace and ending conflict.

Higher education institutions and civil society organizations were encouraged to engage in more peace education activities to raise awareness about international conflicts.

"[...] peace education should not be restricted by political, economic or cultural boundaries and peace as a universal concept should be embedded in the way we think."

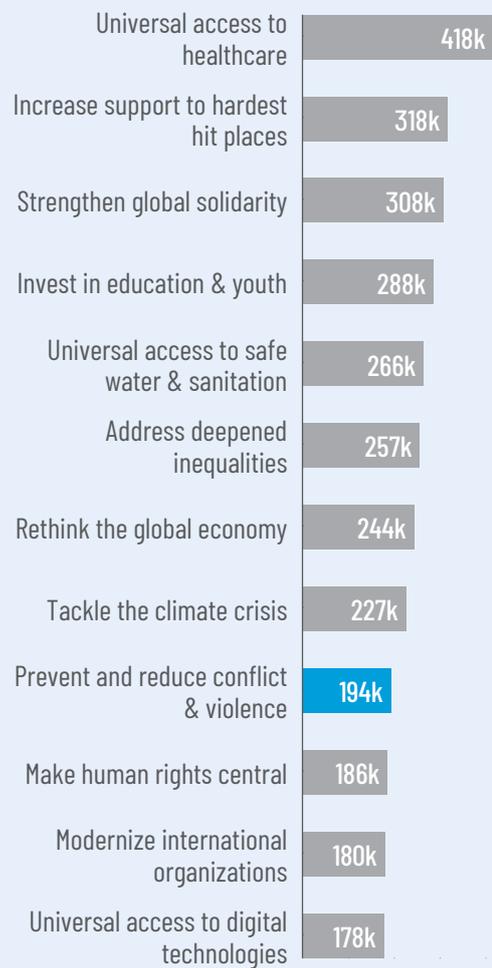
Online dialogue organized by UN Academic Impact, mixed ages, professions and genders.

Improve conflict management and humanitarian assistance

Many participants, including in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Syria, called on the UN to improve conflict management and humanitarian assistance. The importance of the "protection and promotion of human rights and implementation of transitional justice in post-conflict countries" was highlighted (UNAMA in Kunduz, Afghanistan, mixed ages and professions), as was implementing "a strategy that curbs civilian casualties and prioritizes human life above all in an armed conflict" (UN office in Baku, Azerbaijan, 31-45, managers and professionals). In Azerbaijan, participants stressed the need to penalize states that fail to comply with the Geneva Conventions on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Times of War. Participants in Syria called for the removal of sanctions, which they said were hurting citizens, including young people.

Participants in the United States and in the Republic of Korea called for reparations and compensation for select groups. In the US, participants called for reparations for Indigenous populations and descendants of slaves, while in the Republic of Korea,

UN75 Survey immediate priorities to recover from the pandemic: Nearly 200,000 respondents prioritized preventing and reducing conflict/violence in the short-term



UN75 Survey Question: What should the international community prioritize to recover better from the pandemic? Base: 1,133,501 (all respondents as from 22 April, when this question was added). Participants could select up to three responses.

participants considered reparations and compensations for the victims of World War II necessary.

“What the group most wants to see in the future, especially the future in Syria, is safety. They want to see a safe world and country where they do not need to stress over the air they breathe (pollution or pandemic), over the food they eat (poverty and hunger), over the water they drink (access to clean water). The participants want to live in a country full of love and peace, not hate and war. They want to feel safe in their homes, they want to feel safe walking under the open sky and not being hit by a shell, and they want to be able to feel safe sleeping at night, knowing they will be alive the next morning. The participants want to see a peaceful Syria in the year 2045.”

Junior Chamber International, Syria, ages 16-30, mixed professions and genders.

Promote disarmament and arms control

Dialogue participants called for governments and the UN Secretary General to work on disarmament and arms control. In Canada, participants prioritized disarmament and arms control, while in Guinea, participants advocated to limit the manufacturing of weapons and regularize their trade, especially during periods of unrest and war. In Afghanistan, participants affirmed that the UN should continue to prevent the development and use of unconventional weapons and

weapons, which cause large scale destruction, for example the Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB).

Participants in all regions called on governments to act against the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

They proposed that Member States renew disarmament agreements to include nuclear weapons. Participants from a dialogue in Nigeria were concerned about the COVID-19-related delay of the 2020 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). They stressed its importance for reaffirming Member State commitments. University students in the United Kingdom proposed the NPT Review Conferences should place greater emphasis on State Party national reporting to reinvigorate trust through verification.

Participants in the United Kingdom encouraged the UN to work in closer collaboration with nuclear weapons experts from different fields to enrich the discussion about reducing nuclear threats and mitigating their effects.

Participants proposed including experts offering a gender-lens, as well as individuals involved in the technical aspects of disarmament.

Many young people and local government actors advocated for a global ban of nuclear weapons.

“UN Member States should position the abolition of nuclear weapons as a goal in the vision for the world in 2045, which will be the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the UN and the A-bombings.”

Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan, mixed ages, professions and genders.

Enhance conflict resolution through diplomacy and mediation

Participants in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Nigeria, Georgia, and the Republic of Korea called on the UN Secretary General to increase his focus on the mediation of international conflicts and enhance the UN's role as mediator. Participants proposed organizing more dialogues in conflict settings and at the local and national levels to enhance local cooperation and understanding of international mediation efforts. Participants in Azerbaijan additionally advocated for the enforcement of the resolutions adopted during the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Participants in Nigeria asked governments **to update the UN charter to include intra-state conflicts:**

"The UN charter regulates that the UN is responsible for mediation of conflicts between states. Which is extremely necessary as we speak. But the same charter lacks a part stating they have the same responsibility in intra-state conflicts, such as in Myanmar."

Smith Nwokocha - Voice of the Vulnerable, Nigeria, mixed ages, managers and professionals.

Revise peace-keeping and peace-building interventions

Dialogues in both developed and developing countries asked governments and the UN Secretary General to **improve peace-keeping mandates interventions, especially re-examining the role of peacekeepers.** Students in the United Kingdom affirmed the importance to "prevent and redress crimes by peacekeepers" (LondonMet MUN, United

Kingdom, ages 16-30, students). Participants in Canada highlighted the importance of developing more effective and transparent vetting programmes during the selection of UN Peacekeeping Forces.

In an online dialogue, participants called on **UN Organizations, and especially UNESCO, to help rebuild peace and social restoration through the preservation of the cultural and architectural heritage and the restoration of historical sites destroyed during warfare.** Proposed actions included hiring a working team for historic preservation, peace-building and social restoration education, and informing local communities on the importance of historic preservation on social restoration.

"We must adapt to the new realities of the world and the United Nations must modernize and refine its approach. We need stronger mandates for peacekeeping interventions."

Dialogue organized by UN Information Centre, Senegal, mixed ages and genders, students.

Take action against terrorism

Participants in Egypt, Nigeria and India advocated for governments to increase counterterrorism efforts. Participants proposed:

"Agreeing on a comprehensive and comprehensive definition [sic] of terrorism in all its forms and specifying clear mechanisms for dealing with it from institutions, individuals and governments."

Sustainable World Peace, Egypt, ages 31-45, mixed professions.

They also called for more coordinated counterterrorism efforts, leveraging existing legal frameworks. In Nigeria, participants asked for support from the UN for training and capacity building of African security personnel as part of counter-terrorism efforts. Participants also called on governments to provide more support to victims of terrorism, including health, financial and psychological support when required, through legislation that protects victims, and policies that support them.

Protect vulnerable groups in conflict settings

Participants from around the world called on the UN to protect vulnerable groups in conflict and post-conflict settings, in particular women and children. In one online dialogue, participants proposed more comprehensive training on conflict issues related to gender and the protection of children and civilians. Participants referred to training conducted by the Military Gender and Protection Adviser at the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), which delivered basic training to 11,000+ military personnel in the mission.

Dialogues in Afghanistan and India encouraged the UN to fight against human trafficking, particularly the trafficking of children and women. They called on governments to ensure the provision of basic services, rehabilitation programmes, and counseling facilities for trafficked victims.

Continue to advocate for a global ceasefire during COVID-19

Participants in all regions called on the UN Secretary-General to continue to advocate for a global ceasefire amid COVID-19 and for cuts in military spending that would allow more resources to be directed towards the fight against COVID-19. Participants in the United Kingdom and the United States suggested a resolution to require a global ceasefire.

Governments were encouraged to redirect military spending to social and educational programmes to support vulnerable populations hit hardest by the pandemic. In Nigeria, participants emphasized **the need to act against rising crime and abuse brought about by worsening economic opportunities amid COVID-19.** They proposed establishing community policing to deter crime, and for WHO to produce a periodic report outlining the causes and effects of pandemic-induced violence.

MEDIA ANALYSIS²

Civil unrest and violence against women are the topics most reported on in the media, followed by political violence

Conflict and violence was the leading issue covered by media in all regions. Coverage of political violence was also frequently tied to reports of human rights abuses.

Media in the 70 countries analyzed largely focused on national or regional reporting of conflict and violence, except for reports on political violence & major power relations.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, the media reported on a lack of access to ICTs and cybercrime. In Europe, media focused extensively on increased domestic violence due to the pandemic lockdown.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, political femicide was prominent, as well as government policies in relation to sexual violence. In Sub-Saharan Africa, trafficking was a key theme.

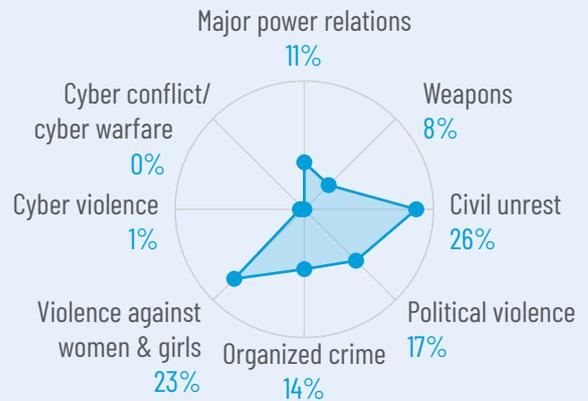
Anti-government protests, demonstrations against social inequities and social or political change were key stories throughout the year, with unrest most visible in Asia, North America and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Organized crime appeared frequently in media reports in Latin America, while political violence and terrorism were prominent in Middle Eastern and Sub-Saharan African media. In Asia, there was future-focused coverage of weapons technology and military planning. Cyber-violence and warfare received some attention in North America, Europe, Central Asia and Asia.

Major power relations were a top driver

of media coverage in North America, and prominent in other regions in relation to specific situations, such as US-China relations, Israel-Palestine issues, and Libya.

Media in 70 countries predominantly reported on civil unrest, violence against women and girls, and political violence



Asia & Australia
 1. Civil unrest
 2. Violence against women/girls

Europe & Central Asia
 1. Violence against women/girls
 2. Civil unrest

Latin America & Caribbean
 1. Violence against women/girls
 2. Organized crime

Middle East & North Africa
 1. Violence against women/girls
 2. Political violence

North America
 1. Civil unrest
 2. Political violence

Sub-Saharan Africa
 1. Civil unrest
 2. Violence against women/girls

Source: Edelman Intelligence Discovery+ | Global | Media coverage in 70 countries, all languages | Date range: May 2019 – May 2020.

2. Edelman Intelligence analysed the global media landscape to gain insights into how megatrends are covered, including the perceived role of international cooperation and the United Nations. They analysed print, broadcast and online media, including social media, in 70 countries, covering the period May 2019 and May 2020. For the full methodology, see the UN75 report “[Shaping Our Future Together](#)”.

RESEARCH SNAPSHOT³

Academic publications

- Biersteker, T. et al. 2018 "[UN targeted sanctions datasets \(1991–2013\)](#)" Journal of Peace Research.
- Campbell, S. 2018 [Global Governance & Local Peace: Accountability & Performance in International Peacebuilding](#).
- Caplan, R. 2019 [Measuring Peace: Principles, Practices, and Politics](#).
- De Coning, C. 2018 "[Adaptive peacebuilding](#)" International Affairs.
- Howard, L. 2019 [Power in Peacekeeping](#).
- Hultman, L., Kathman, J. & Shannon, M. 2019 [Peacekeeping in the Midst of War](#).
- Khudaykulova, A. 2019 "[Миротворчество ООН в XXI веке: основные векторы реформ по повышению эффективности миротворческих операций](#)" South-Russian Journal of Social Sciences.
- Krause, J. 2018 [Resilient Communities: Non-Violence and Civilian Agency in Communal War](#).
- Lee, S. & Özerdem, A. (eds) 2020 [Local Ownership in International Peacebuilding: Key Theoretical and Practical Issues](#).
- Li, Y. 2020 "[加速实施妇女、和平与安全议程——对近五年中国落实“妇女与武装冲突”战略目标的评估](#)" Journal of Shandong Women's University.
- Li, Y. 2019 "[强力维和与联合国维和行动的重构](#)" Foreign Affairs Review.
- Rietjens, S. & Ruffa, S. 2019 "[Understanding Coherence in UN Peacekeeping: A Conceptual Framework](#)" International Peacekeeping.
- Ruggieri, A., Dorussen, H. & Gizelis, T. 2017 "[Winning the Peace Locally: UN Peacekeeping and Local Conflict](#)" International Organization.
- Scott, S. & Ku, C. (eds) 2018 [Climate Change and the UN Security Council](#).
- Walter, B., Howard, L. & Fortna, V. 2020 "[The Extraordinary Relationship between Peacekeeping and Peace](#)" British Journal of Political Science.

Policy research & reports

- Dröge, S. 2020 [Addressing the Risks of Climate Change: What Role for the UN Security Council?](#), German Inst. for International & Security Affairs.
- High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations [UN] 2015 [Uniting Our Strengths for Peace: Politics, Partnership and People](#).
- Independent Expert Group of African Union Peace & Security Council 2020 [A Study on the Roles and Contributions of Youth to Peace & Security in Africa](#).
- Pantuliano, S., Metcalfe-Hough, V. & McKechnie, A. 2018 [The capacity of UN agencies, funds and programmes to sustain peace: an independent review](#), Overseas Development Institute.
- Security Council Report 2020 [Prioritisation & Sequencing of Council Mandates: Walking the Walk?](#).

3. This research snapshot includes a selection of top cited publications identified in the broader UN75 research mapping of academic and policy research focused on multilateralism, the United Nations, and the UN's areas of work, covering the six official UN languages. The research mapping was conducted in collaboration with the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. For the full methodology, see the UN75 report "[Shaping Our Future Together](#)".

- Singh, P. 2016 [A fractured way forward for a Global Peace and Security Agenda](#), African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes.
- Smit, T. & Tidblad-Lundholm, K. 2018 [Trends in Women's Participation in UN, EU & OSCE Peace Operations](#), Stockholm Int. Peace Research Inst.
- UN 2020 [United to Reform: Vision of the UN Peace and Security Pillar](#).
- – 2020 [Peacebuilding and sustaining peace: Report of the Secretary-General](#).
- –2020 [Youth and peace and security: Report of the Secretary-General](#).
- – 2018 [Security our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament](#).
- UN Development Programme 2016 [Preventing Violent Extremism through Promoting Inclusive Development, Tolerance and Respect for Diversity](#).
- UN & World Bank 2018 [Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict](#).
- Weiszegger, W. 2020 [Implementing the UN Management Reform: Progress and Implications for Peace Operations](#), International Peace Institute.
- Autesserre, S. 2019 "[The Crisis of Peacekeeping: Why the UN Can't End Wars](#)" Foreign Affairs.
- De Coning, C. 2018 "[Sustaining Peace: Can a New Approach Change the UN?](#)" IPI Global Observatory.
- Gowan R. 2019 "[Politics of Action for Peacekeeping](#)" UN University Centre for Policy Research.
- Guterres, A. 2020 "[The fury of the virus illustrates the folly of war](#)" UN [Global Ceasefire Appeal].
- Hennebelle, I. 2020 «[Les manifestations du changement climatique s'intensifient, leur impact sur les Etats et les sociétés aussi](#)» Le Monde.
- Ponzio, R. 2018 "[The UN's new "Sustaining Peace" Agenda: A Policy Breakthrough in the Making](#)" Stimson Center.

Commentaries & opinion pieces

- Arthur, P., Monnier, C. & Zamore, L. 2020 "[The New Secretary-General Report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace: Prevention Back on the Agenda](#)" NYU Center on International Cooperation.

Data resources & tools

- [SanctionsApp](#)
- Cil, D. et al. 2020 "[Mapping blue helmets: Introducing the Geocoded Peacekeeping Operations \(Geo-PKO\) dataset](#)" Journal of Peace Research.
- [Correlates of War Project](#).
- [Fragile States Index](#).
- [Global Peace Index](#).